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Criminal Law & Procedure

US v. Flores-Rivera, No. 10-1434

In consolidated appeals in a multi-count indictment alleging four defendants and their forty-three co-defendants participated in a far-reaching drug trafficking conspiracy throughout various parts of eastern Puerto, convictions and sentences are: 1) remanded for a new trial for defendants Ramos and Omar, where the district court erred in denying their motions for a new trial based on the prosecution's failure to disclose material evidence in violation of Brady v. Maryland, 373 U.S. 83 (1963); but 2) affirmed as to defendants Sonia and Sandra, where they do not raise Brady claims and no reversible errors arise from the claims that they do bring regarding their trial, sentencing, and post-trial proceedings.

Criminal Law & Procedure, Sentencing

US v. Crespo-Rios, No. 13-2216

Government's appeal of sentence for conviction of transferring obscene material to a minor and possessing child pornography is vacated and remanded for resentencing where the sentence is substantively unreasonable because the district court failed to provide an adequate explanation as required by law for this extraordinary downward variance.